



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/920,611	08/01/2001	Cary Lee Bates	ROC920010084US1	4026
7590	12/02/2004		EXAMINER	
Gero G. McClellan Thomason, Moser & Patterson, L.L.P. Suite 1500 3040 Post Oak Boulevard Houston, TX 77056-6582			TAYLOR, BARRY W	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2643	
DATE MAILED: 12/02/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/920,611	BATES ET AL.
	Examiner Barry W Taylor	Art Unit 2643

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**.      2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 01 August 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

1. Claims 1-3, 5, 10, 12, 15-17, 19, 24 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Cai et al (6,246,757 hereinafter Cai).

Regarding claim 1. Cai teaches a method of processing a telephone call at a communication processing system, wherein the telephone call is made from a telecommunications device by a user using a telephone calling card (abstract), comprising:

processing an identification number associated with the telephone calling card (col. 2 lines 48-55, col. 3 lines 37-40, col. 3 line 67 – col. 4 line 3, see “PIN” column 4 lines 25-27);

receiving a command from the telecommunications device (see sample abbreviated dialing codes listed in TABLE 1---col. 4 line 41 – col. 5 line 40 wherein user enters abbreviated dialing code (i.e. command) to be used for abbreviated dialing);

in response to the command, configuring a calling card function (see col. 5 lines 38-40 wherein user first creates abbreviated dialing codes to be used with calling card).

For example, user enters abbreviated dial code "5#" (see TABLE 1 bottom of column 4) for calling card account to be used to reach a spouse at work number (x-xxx-xxx-1234) during the week (Mon.-Fri.) and user enters abbreviated dial code "5#" (see TABLE 1 bottom of column 4) for calling card account to be used to reach spouse at home (x-xxx-xxx-4321) on the weekend).

storing the calling card function for use by the communication processing system during a subsequent telephone call initiated by the user (col. 3 line 67 – col. 4 line 3, see col. 5 lines 38-40 wherein abbreviated dialing codes are stored in SCP database in advance (i.e. for subsequent usage)).

Regarding claim 2. Cai teaches wherein configuring comprises associating an operation with one or more buttons of the telecommunications device (see TABLE 1 bottom of column 4 wherein buttons "5" and "#" are associated with abbreviated dialing (i.e. operation) spouse at work during the week wherein the pound sign "#" serves as a stop digit (col. 4 line 66)).

Regarding claim 3. Cai teaches wherein configuring comprises associating a number of keystrokes on the telecommunications device with a number to be dialed, wherein the number of keystrokes is less than a number of digits of the number to be dialed (see TABLE 1 wherein keystrokes "7" and "#" are associated with number y-yyy-yyy-2468 to be dialed during the hours of 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.).

Regarding claim 5. Cai teaches executing the calling card function in response to another command received from the telecommunications device during a subsequent telephone call (see col. 4 line 66 – col. 5 line 14 wherein the user can use the start digits (i.e. another command) verses stop digit “#” to execute the calling card function).

Regarding claim 10. Cai teaches a communication processing system (item 100 figure 1) configured to process a telephone call at a communication processing system, wherein the telephone call is made from a telecommunications device (see items 102, 104, 106 and 108 figure 1) by a user using a telephone calling card (item 110 figure 1), the communication processing system, comprising:

a computer comprising a network connection facility to communicate with the telecommunications device (abstract, item 121 figure 1, col. 3 lines 49-53), and a processor configured to perform an operation during a network connection with the telecommunications device (item 136 figure 1, col. 4 lines 18-24), the operation comprising:

processing a telephone calling card identification number received from the telecommunications device (col. 2 lines 48-55, col. 3 lines 37-40, col. 3 line 67 – col. 4 line 3, see “PIN” column 4 lines 25-27);

enabling at least one user defined calling card function using the identification number (col. 5 lines 15-22), wherein the user defined calling card function was configured during a previous network connection between the network connection

facility and a telephony device operated by the user (see col. 5 lines 38-40 wherein user first creates abbreviated dialing codes to be used with calling card in advance);

receive, form the telecommunications device, a command configured to invoke the at least one user defined calling card function (see col. 5 lines 38-40 and TABLE 1 located at bottom of column 4 wherein user first creates abbreviated dialing codes to be used with calling card. Next, the user makes calling card call and after PIN validated the user dials “5#” to invoke abbreviated dialing (col. 4 lines 11-32) to reach spouse at work (col. 5 lines 29-37)); and

execute the at least one user defined calling card function (col. 5 lines 15-27).

Regarding claim 12. Cai teaches wherein executing the at least one user defined calling card function comprises dialing a number and the command comprises user input less than all digits of the number (see TABLE 1 wherein keystrokes “7#” is used to dial the y-yyy-yyy-2468 during the hours of 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.).

Regarding claim 15. Cai teaches a computer-readable medium containing a telephone calling card program (abstract, item 121 figure 1, col. 3 lines 49-53, col. 4 lines 18-40), wherein the calling card program, when executed by a processor performs operations comprising:

communicating with the telecommunications device via network connection in response to a telephone call initiated by a user of the telecommunications device (col. 3 lines 28-65, col. 5 lines 38-47);

processing an identification number associated with the telephone calling card (col. 2 lines 48-55, col. 3 lines 37-40, col. 3 line 67 – col. 4 line 3, see “PIN” column 4 lines 25-27);

receiving a command from the telecommunications device (see sample abbreviated dialing codes listed in TABLE 1---col. 4 line 41 – col. 5 line 40 wherein user enters abbreviated dialing code (i.e. command) to be used for abbreviated dialing);

in response to the command, configuring a calling card function (see col. 5 lines 38-40 wherein user first creates abbreviated dialing codes to be used with calling card. For example, user enters abbreviated dial code “5#” (see TABLE 1 bottom of column 4) for calling card account to be used to reach a spouse at work number (x-xxx-xxx-1234) during the week (Mon.-Fri.) and user enters abbreviated dial code “5#” (see TABLE 1 bottom of column 4) for calling card account to be used to reach spouse at home (x-xxx-xxx-4321) on the weekend).

storing the calling card function for use by the communication processing system during a subsequent telephone call initiated by the user (col. 3 line 67 – col. 4 line 3, see col. 5 lines 38-40 wherein abbreviated dialing codes are stored in SCP database in advance (i.e. for subsequent usage)).

Regarding claim 16. Cai teaches the computer-readable medium wherein configuring comprises associating an operation with one or more buttons of the telecommunications device (see TABLE 1 bottom of column 4 wherein buttons “5” and

"#" are associated with abbreviated dialing (i.e. operation) spouse at work during the week wherein the pound sign "#" serves as a stop digit (col. 4 line 66)).

Regarding claim 17. Cai teaches the computer-readable medium wherein configuring comprises associating a number of keystrokes on the telecommunications device with a number to be dialed, wherein the number of keystrokes is less than a number of digits of the number to be dialed (see TABLE 1 wherein keystrokes "7" and "#" are associated with number y-yyy-yyy-2468 to be dialed during the hours of 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.).

Regarding claim 19. Cai teaches the computer-readable medium further comprises executing the calling card function in response to another command received from the telecommunications device during a subsequent telephone call (see col. 4 line 66 – col. 5 line 14 wherein the user can use the start digits (i.e. another command) verses stop digit "#" to execute the calling card function).

Regarding claim 24. Cai teaches a computer-readable medium containing a telephone calling card program (abstract, item 121 figure 1, col. 3 lines 49-53, col. 4 lines 18-40), wherein the calling card program, when executed by a processor performs operations comprising:

communicating with the telecommunications device via network connection in response to a telephone call initiated by a user of the telecommunications device (col. 3 lines 28-65, col. 5 lines 38-47);

processing an identification number associated with the telephone calling card (col. 2 lines 48-55, col. 3 lines 37-40, col. 3 line 67 – col. 4 line 3, see “PIN” column 4 lines 25-27);

enabling at least one user defined calling card function using the identification number (col. 5 lines 15-22), wherein the user defined calling card function was configured during a previous network connection between the network connection facility and a telephony device operated by the user (see col. 5 lines 38-40 wherein user first creates abbreviated dialing codes to be used with calling card in advance);

receive, from the telecommunications device, a command configured to invoke the at least one user defined calling card function (see col. 5 lines 38-40 and TABLE 1 located at bottom of column 4 wherein user first creates abbreviated dialing codes to be used with calling card. Next, the user makes calling card call and after PIN validated the user dials “5#” to invoke abbreviated dialing (col. 4 lines 11-32) to reach spouse at work (col. 5 lines 29-37)); and

execute the at least one user defined calling card function (col. 5 lines 15-27).

Regarding claim 26. Cai teaches wherein executing the at least one user defined calling card function comprises dialing a number and the command comprises user

input less than all digits of the number (see TABLE 1 wherein keystrokes "7#" is used to dial the y-yyy-yyy-2468 during the hours of 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

2. Claims 4 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cai et al (6,246,757 hereinafter Cai) in view of Thomas (6,038,292).

Regarding claim 4. Cai fails to teach configuring comprises selecting a language for voice prompts so that the language is automatically selected by the communication processing system during the subsequent telephone call.

Thomas teaches using a database containing prepaid accounts and a language library used for voice prompts (abstract). Thomas discloses that prior art teaches printing a series of cards in a variety of languages which only increases the issuer's and merchant's inventory (col. 2 lines 2-23). Therefore, Thomas uses a database to store user's preferred language to be used for subsequent prepaid telephone calls (col. 2 lines 43-67). Thomas also discloses that prepaid telephone card (see item 114 figure 1, col. 4 lines 47-56) may be used for "speed-dialing". Thomas further teaches using an account code associated with the prepaid telephone card to determine the preferred language to be used (col. 7 lines 48-55).

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the database as taught by Cai to include language preference table as taught by Thomas for the benefit of only printing one card to be used for a variety of languages thereby saving on inventory costs.

Regarding claim 18. Cai fails to teach the computer-readable medium wherein configuring comprises selecting a language for voice prompts so that the language is automatically selected by the communication processing system during the subsequent telephone call.

Thomas teaches using a database containing prepaid accounts and a language library used for voice prompts (abstract). Thomas discloses that prior art teaches printing a series of cards in a variety of languages which only increases the issuer's and merchant's inventory (col. 2 lines 2-23). Therefore, Thomas uses a database to store

user's preferred language to be used for subsequent prepaid telephone calls (col. 2 lines 43-67). Thomas also discloses that prepaid telephone card (see item 114 figure 1, col. 4 lines 47-56) may be used for "speed-dialing". Thomas further teaches using an account code associated with the prepaid telephone card to determine the preferred language to be used (col. 7 lines 48-55).

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the database as taught by Cai to include language preference table as taught by Thomas for the benefit of only printing one card to be used for a variety of languages thereby saving on inventory costs.

3. Claims 6-9, 14, 20-23 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cai et al (6,246,757 hereinafter Cai) in view of Bayless et al (5,754,636 hereinafter Bayless).

Regarding claim 6. Cai does not teach the calling card function is to dial a stored number and executing the calling card function comprises searching for the stored number in a data structure. However, Cai discloses using different numbers to be dialed having the same abbreviated dialing code. For example, TABLE 1 shows "5#" used to call spouse at work number during the week and "5#" for calling spouse at home on weekend. Another example shown in TABLE 1 shows using "7#" used to call y-yyy-yyy-2468 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. and "7#" used to call another number y-yyy-yyy-8642 between the hours of 6 p.m. and 8 a.m. In other words, dialing "5#" or "7#" requires the SCP to not only match the abbreviated dialing code with a

destination number but also requires the SCP to check current day and time when selecting the destination number associated with the abbreviated dialing code.

Bayless teaches a computer telephone system having local database (see client database item 22 figure 1) and server database (see server database 40 figure 1) used for telephone directory features (col. 16 line 59 – col. 17 line 10). Bayless further discloses using PIN numbers, credit card numbers and other dial strings to make telephone credit card calls (col. 20 lines 25-38). Bayless discloses that server database (item 40 figure 1) may also be connected to remote database server (see item 41 figure 3) providing additional database services from remote locations.

In other words, Bayless telephone directory features (i.e. speed dialing and name look up) may be stored locally (i.e. at the client computer --- item 14 figure 1), as well as, at service provider database (i.e. item 16 figure 1). The Examiner notes that Cai uses Intelligent Network (Cai item 121 figure 1) to store abbreviated dialing and calling card information, which is the same field of endeavor as Bayless using service provider database (item 40 figure 1). Bayless discloses using name look up in conjunction with speed dialing (col. 42 line 44 – col. 43 line 6). Bayless discloses that user may dial by first name, their last name or even use a letter of first or last name if they cannot remember the full name of a person whom they desire to speak with (col. 43 lines 7-67).

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the database as taught by Cai to include directory name look up as taught by Bayless for the benefit of allowing the user to speed dial by name which

makes the system more user friendly since it allows for lookup of multiple phone numbers for a single user having only the users name as the starting basis.

Regarding claim 7. Bayless further teaches searching for the stored number comprises:

receiving, from the telecommunications device, a search value associated with the stored number (see col. 42 line 44 – col. 43 line 6 wherein name look up (i.e. search value) associated with several telephone numbers is used for speed dialing, see column 43 lines 7-67 wherein partial string (i.e. search value) used to locate telephone number);

accessing the data structure containing a plurality of stored telephone numbers associated with user (see col. 42 line 44 – col. 43 line 6 wherein name look up (i.e. search value) associated with several telephone numbers is used for speed dialing);

determining whether an association exists between at least one stored number of the plurality of stored numbers and the stored number to be dialed (col. 42 lines 49-59); and

if an association exists, then processing the at least one stored number (col. 42 lines 60-67).

Regarding claim 8. Bayless further teaches wherein the search value comprises a name and wherein accessing the data structure comprises accessing one or more address books (see col. 42 line 44 – col. 43 line 6, col. 43 lines 12-16 reveals that user can locate telephone number in any of the user's phone directories using either persons

full name, their last name, first name, an alias, or the beginning of their first or last name).

Regarding claim 9. Bayless further teaches wherein processing the at least one stored number comprises, if the at least one stored number includes more than one number (col. 42 lines 49-59):

allowing the user to select one number from the at least one stored number (col. 42 lines 49-67); and

dialing the selected number (col. 42 lines 60-67).

Regarding claim 14. Cai fails to teach wherein executing the at least one user defined calling card function comprises searching for a stored number in at least one address book specific to the user. However, Cai discloses using different numbers to be dialed having the same abbreviated dialing code. For example, TABLE 1 shows "5#" used to call spouse at work number during the week and "5#" for calling spouse at home on weekend. Another example shown in TABLE 1 shows using "7#" used to call y-yyy-yyy-2468 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. and "7#" used to call another number y-yyy-yyy-8642 between the hours of 6 p.m. and 8 a.m. In other words, dialing "5#" or "7#" requires the SCP to not only match the abbreviated dialing code with a destination number but also requires the SCP to check current day and time when selecting the destination number associated with the abbreviated dialing code.

Bayless teaches a computer telephone system having local database (see client database item 22 figure 1) and server database (see server database 40 figure 1) used for telephone directory features (col. 16 line 59 – col. 17 line 10). Bayless further discloses using PIN numbers, credit card numbers and other dial strings to make telephone credit card calls (col. 20 lines 25-38). Bayless discloses that server database (item 40 figure 1) may also be connected to remote database server (see item 41 figure 3) providing additional database services from remote locations.

In other words, Bayless telephone directory features (i.e. speed dialing and name look up) may be stored locally (i.e. at the client computer --- item 14 figure 1), as well as, at service provider database (i.e. item 16 figure 1). The Examiner notes that Cai uses Intelligent Network (Cai item 121 figure 1) to store abbreviated dialing and calling card information, which is the same field of endeavor as Bayless using service provider database (item 40 figure 1). Bayless teaches the name or number may be associated with the speed dial feature (col. 42 line 34 – col. 43 line 6). Bayless discloses that user may dial by first name, their last name or even use a letter of first or last name if they cannot remember the full name of a person whom they desire to speak with (col. 43 lines 7-67). Bayless further teaches global search criteria may be used (see figure 87 and col. 45 lines 30-52 wherein user can select search criteria of: Name, Number, company city).

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the database as taught by Cai to include directory name look up as taught by Bayless for the benefit of allowing the user to speed dial by name which

makes the system more user friendly since it allows for lookup of multiple phone numbers for a single user having only the users name as the starting basis.

Regarding claim 20. Cai does not teach the computer-readable medium wherein the calling card function is to dial a stored number and executing the calling card function comprises searching for the stored number in a data structure. However, Cai discloses using different numbers to be dialed having the same abbreviated dialing code. For example, TABLE 1 shows “5#” used to call spouse at work number during the week and “5#” for calling spouse at home on weekend. Another example shown in TABLE 1 shows using “7#” used to call y-yyy-yyy-2468 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. and “7#” used to call another number y-yyy-yyy-8642 between the hours of 6 p.m. and 8 a.m. In other words, dialing “5#” or “7#” requires the SCP to not only match the abbreviated dialing code with a destination number but also requires the SCP to check current day and time when selecting the destination number associated with the abbreviated dialing code.

Bayless teaches a computer telephone system having local database (see client database item 22 figure 1) and server database (see server database 40 figure 1) used for telephone directory features (col. 16 line 59 – col. 17 line 10). Bayless further discloses using PIN numbers, credit card numbers and other dial strings to make telephone credit card calls (col. 20 lines 25-38). Bayless discloses that server database (item 40 figure 1) may also be connected to remote database server (see item 41 figure 3) providing additional database services from remote locations.

In other words, Bayless telephone directory features (i.e. speed dialing and name look up) may be stored locally (i.e. at the client computer --- item 14 figure 1), as well as, at service provider database (i.e. item 16 figure 1). The Examiner notes that Cai uses Intelligent Network (Cai item 121 figure 1) to store abbreviated dialing and calling card information, which is the same field of endeavor as Bayless using service provider database (item 40 figure 1). Bayless discloses using name look up in conjunction with speed dialing (col. 42 line 44 – col. 43 line 6). Bayless discloses that user may dial by first name, their last name or even use a letter of first or last name if they cannot remember the full name of a person whom they desire to speak with (col. 43 lines 7-67).

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the database as taught by Cai to include directory name look up as taught by Bayless for the benefit of allowing the user to speed dial by name which makes the system more user friendly since it allows for lookup of multiple phone numbers for a single user having only the users name as the starting basis.

Regarding claim 21. Bayless further teaches searching for the stored number comprises:

receiving, from the telecommunications device, a search value associated with the stored number (see col. 42 line 44 – col. 43 line 6 wherein name look up (i.e. search value) associated with several telephone numbers is used for speed dialing, see column 43 lines 7-67 wherein partial string (i.e. search value) used to locate telephone number);

accessing the data structure containing a plurality of stored telephone numbers associated with user (see col. 42 line 44 – col. 43 line 6 wherein name look up (i.e. search value) associated with several telephone numbers is used for speed dialing);

determining whether an association exists between at least one stored number of the plurality of stored numbers and the stored number to be dialed (col. 42 lines 49-59); and

if an association exists, then processing the at least one stored number (col. 42 lines 60-67).

Regarding claim 22. Bayless further teaches wherein the search value comprises a name and wherein accessing the data structure comprises accessing one or more address books (see col. 42 line 44 – col. 43 line 6, col. 43 lines 12-16 reveals that user can locate telephone number in any of the user's phone directories using either persons full name, their last name, first name, an alias, or the beginning of their first or last name).

Regarding claim 23. Bayless further teaches wherein processing the at least one stored number comprises, if the at least one stored number includes more than one number (col. 42 lines 49-59):

allowing the user to select one number from the at least one stored number (col. 42 lines 49-67); and

dialing the selected number (col. 42 lines 60-67).

Regarding claim 28. Cai fails to teach wherein executing the at least one user defined calling card function comprises searching for a stored number in at least one address book specific to the user. However, Cai discloses using different numbers to be dialed having the same abbreviated dialing code. For example, TABLE 1 shows "5#" used to call spouse at work number during the week and "5#" for calling spouse at home on weekend. Another example shown in TABLE 1 shows using "7#" used to call y-yyy-yyy-2468 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. and "7#" used to call another number y-yyy-yyy-8642 between the hours of 6 p.m. and 8 a.m. In other words, dialing "5#" or "7#" requires the SCP to not only match the abbreviated dialing code with a destination number but also requires the SCP to check current day and time when selecting the destination number associated with the abbreviated dialing code.

Bayless teaches a computer telephone system having local database (see client database item 22 figure 1) and server database (see server database 40 figure 1) used for telephone directory features (col. 16 line 59 – col. 17 line 10). Bayless further discloses using PIN numbers, credit card numbers and other dial strings to make telephone credit card calls (col. 20 lines 25-38). Bayless discloses that server database (item 40 figure 1) may also be connected to remote database server (see item 41 figure 3) providing additional database services from remote locations.

In other words, Bayless telephone directory features (i.e. speed dialing and name look up) may be stored locally (i.e. at the client computer --- item 14 figure 1), as well as, at service provider database (i.e. item 16 figure 1). The Examiner notes that Cai

uses Intelligent Network (Cai item 121 figure 1) to store abbreviated dialing and calling card information, which is the same field of endeavor as Bayless using service provider database (item 40 figure 1). Bayless teaches the name or number may be associated with the speed dial feature (col. 42 line 34 – col. 43 line 6). Bayless discloses that user may dial by first name, their last name or even use a letter of first or last name if they cannot remember the full name of a person whom they desire to speak with (col. 43 lines 7-67). Bayless further teaches global search criteria may be used (see figure 87 and col. 45 lines 30-52 wherein user can select search criteria of: Name, Number, company city).

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the database as taught by Cai to include directory name look up as taught by Bayless for the benefit of allowing the user to speed dial by name which makes the system more user friendly since it allows for lookup of multiple phone numbers for a single user having only the users name as the starting basis.

4. Claims 11, 13, 25 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cai et al (6,246,757 hereinafter Cai) in view of Haimi-Cohen (5,983,093).

Regarding claim 11. Cai fails to teach wherein executing the at least one user defined calling card function comprises dialing a previously dialed number.

Haimi-Cohen teaches first authenticating caller by prompting for PIN (col. 4 lines 41-55) before allowing user to initiate call using speed-dial memory (col. 5 lines 25-45,

col. 6 lines 26-38) or re-dial memory (col. 5 lines 46-61, col. 6 lines 49-57) which is similar to Cai in that PIN is first verified before allowing caller to make telephone call using abbreviated dialing codes. Haimi-Cohen discloses that the speed dial memory and redial memory may also be located at central server (col. 2 lines 64-67, col. 9 line 63 – col. 10 line 22). Haimi-Cohen discloses user can initiate a call based on a telephone number stored in speed dial memory or redial memory without having to enter the PIN thereby reducing cost associated with the telephone call (col. 1 line 63 – col. 2 line 3), as well as, making telephone calls more convenient since the PIN only has to be entered once.

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the database as taught by Cai to include redial memory as taught by Haimi-Cohen for the benefit of allowing the user to redial the most recently called telephone number which makes the system more user friendly since the PIN number need only be entered once, as well as, saving the user money because the service provider does not have to perform additional PIN verifications costing user valuable air-time minutes.

Regarding claim 13. Cai fails to teach executing the at least one user defined calling card function comprises redialing a last number dialed. However, Cai teaches user may dial the number “5#” and SCP searches database (see TABLE 1 bottom of column 4 and col. 5 lines 15-37) to find match.

Haimi-Cohen teaches first authenticating caller by prompting for PIN (col. 4 lines 41-55) before allowing user to initiate call using speed-dial memory (col. 5 lines 25-45, col. 6 lines 26-38) or re-dial memory (col. 5 lines 46-61, col. 6 lines 49-57) which is similar to Cai in that PIN is first verified before allowing caller to make telephone call using abbreviated dialing codes. Haimi-Cohen discloses that the speed dial memory and redial memory may also be located at central server (col. 2 lines 64-67, col. 9 line 63 – col. 10 line 22). Haimi-Cohen discloses user can initiate a call based on a telephone number stored in speed dial memory or redial memory without having to enter the PIN thereby reducing cost associated with the telephone call (col. 1 line 63 – col. 2 line 3), as well as, making telephone calls more convenient since the PIN only has to be entered once.

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the database as taught by Cai to include redial memory as taught by Haimi-Cohen for the benefit of allowing the user to redial the most recently called telephone number which makes the system more user friendly since the PIN number need only be entered once, as well as, saving the user money because the service provider does not have to perform additional PIN verifications costing user valuable air-time minutes.

The Examiner has interpreted the scope of the claim language (pertaining to claim 13) as requiring two of the three listed functions (redialing, searching and setting language preference) since the phrase “at least one” requires one listed function, however the phrase “and combinations thereof” requires more than one listed function.

Regarding claim 25. Cai fails to teach the computer readable medium wherein executing the at least one user defined calling card function comprises dialing a previously dialed number.

Haimi-Cohen teaches first authenticating caller by prompting for PIN (col. 4 lines 41-55) before allowing user to initiate call using speed-dial memory (col. 5 lines 25-45, col. 6 lines 26-38) or re-dial memory (col. 5 lines 46-61, col. 6 lines 49-57) which is similar to Cai in that PIN is first verified before allowing caller to make telephone call using abbreviated dialing codes. Haimi-Cohen discloses that the speed dial memory and redial memory may also be located at central server (col. 2 lines 64-67, col. 9 line 63 – col. 10 line 22). Haimi-Cohen discloses user can initiate a call based on a telephone number stored in speed dial memory or redial memory without having to enter the PIN thereby reducing cost associated with the telephone call (col. 1 line 63 – col. 2 line 3), as well as, making telephone calls more convenient since the PIN only has to be entered once.

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the database as taught by Cai to include redial memory as taught by Haimi-Cohen for the benefit of allowing the user to redial the most recently called telephone number which makes the system more user friendly since the PIN number need only be entered once, as well as, saving the user money because the service provider does not have to perform additional PIN verifications costing user valuable air-time minutes.

Regarding claim 27. Cai fails to teach executing the at least one user defined calling card function comprises redialing a last number dialed. However, Cai teaches user may dial the number "5#" and SCP searches database (see TABLE 1 bottom of column 4 and col. 5 lines 15-37) to find match.

Haimi-Cohen teaches first authenticating caller by prompting for PIN (col. 4 lines 41-55) before allowing user to initiate call using speed-dial memory (col. 5 lines 25-45, col. 6 lines 26-38) or re-dial memory (col. 5 lines 46-61, col. 6 lines 49-57) which is similar to Cai in that PIN is first verified before allowing caller to make telephone call using abbreviated dialing codes. Haimi-Cohen discloses that the speed dial memory and redial memory may also be located at central server (col. 2 lines 64-67, col. 9 line 63 – col. 10 line 22). Haimi-Cohen discloses user can initiate a call based on a telephone number stored in speed dial memory or redial memory without having to enter the PIN thereby reducing cost associated with the telephone call (col. 1 line 63 – col. 2 line 3), as well as, making telephone calls more convenient since the PIN only has to be entered once.

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to modify the database as taught by Cai to include redial memory as taught by Haimi-Cohen for the benefit of allowing the user to redial the most recently called telephone number which makes the system more user friendly since the PIN number need only be entered once, as well as, saving the user money because the service

provider does not have to perform additional PIN verifications costing user valuable air-time minutes.

The Examiner has interpreted the scope of the claim language (pertaining to claim 27) as requiring two of the three listed functions (redialing, searching and setting language preference) since the phrase "at least one" requires one listed function, however the phrase "and combinations thereof" requires more than one listed function.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Barry W. Taylor whose telephone number is (703) 305-4811. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 6:30am to 4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis Kuntz can be reached on (703) 305-4708. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to Technology Center 2600 customer service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.



Barry W. Taylor  
Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2600  
Art Unit 2643